[Translation]

Captive Power Plant

2138. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Coal Fields Limited has set up a captive power plant at Kathara in Bokaro area of Bihar by spending crores of rupees which has not been started functioning so far;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) and (b). A 2 x 10 MW Captive Power Plant has been set up by M/s. Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) on turn-key basis at Kathara under Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) at an estimated cost of Rs. 85.20 crores. The plant has since been commissioned and has operated intermittently since been commissioned and has operated intermittently since June, 1994, due to delay in providing start-up power with synchoronization by Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC), the plant could not run continuously. This issue was resolved and there were certain mechanical failures which have been rectified and the plant is expected to restart shortly.

[English]

Unclaimed Machines with Customs

2139. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of fogging machines crucial for stemming the Dengue epidemic spread in the capital are lying unclaimed with the customs authorities in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;

(c) the reasons for not clearing these machines by custom authorities even though hundreds of people died of Dengue epidemic; and

(d) the corrective steps being taken in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No, Sir. No consignment of fogging machine is pending for assessment and clearance or lying unclaimed with Customs authorities at Delhi.

(b) to (d). In view of (a) above, does not arise.

[Translation]

Scheme for Rural and Tribal Areas

2140. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the schemes started for rural and tribal areas under the new industrial policy;

(b) the names of the States where the said schemes are being implemented;

(c) whether the people of rural and tribal areas are being benefited by these schemes; and

(d) if so, the details and the number of persons benefited by the above schemes, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Production/Import of Newsprint

2141. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :
JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of newsprint in the country is not adequate to meet the requirement of newsprint in India;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the newsprint is being imported to meet the requirement of the country;

(d) if so, the quantity of newsprint produced indigenously and also imported during each of the last three years; and

(e) the steps being taken to produce more newsprint in the country to meet the demand?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). The demand of newsprint in the country is more than its production. Indigenous production is, therefore, not adequate to meet the requirement of newsprint.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Data regarding indigenous production of newsprint and import during the last three years is as under :

Year	(Lakh Tonnes) Indigenous Production	Import
1993-94	3.61	3.11
1994-95	4.02	2.92
1995-96	4.10	3.45

(e) Government is providing the following fiscal incentives for enhancing the production of the newsprint in the country to meet the demand.

(i) Newsprint is exempted from excise duty;

(ii) Customs Duty on import of wood pulp for manufacture of newsprint has been abolished;

(iii) Further under the new Industrial Policy procedures have been simplified for

establishing newsprint units. Units based on minimum 75% pulp derived from non-conventional raw-materials are exempted from compulsory industrial licensing.

These policy measures are expected to provide an environment conducive to increased production of newsprint.

Newsprint Manufacturing Paper Mills

2142. JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :
SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of paper mills in public sector manufacturing newsprint in the country, location-wise;

(b) whether the above mills are manufacturing newsprint fully as per their capacity;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the capacity utilised by each of the above mills during each of the last three years;

(d) the investment made by the Government in these mills till April, 1996; and

(e) the details of profit earned/loss incurred by each of the above mills during the above period alongwith the reasons for incurring the loss?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Major Newsprint Manufacturing Public Sector Mills in the Country :

1.	Hindustan Newsprint Limited, Kerala	:	Central Public Sector Undertaking
2.	Nepa Limited, Madhya Pradesh	:	Central Public Sector Undertaking
3.	Mysore Paper Mills Limited, Karnataka	:	State Public Secrtor Undertaking
4.	Tamil Nadu Newsprint and Papers Limited, Tamil Nadu	:	State Public Sector Undertaking

(b) to (d). Capacity utilisation and Investment by Government :

	Capacity Utilisation (%)			Investment made by Central Government till April, 1996
	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	
Hindustan Newsprint Limited	123.25	105.40	101.11	Rs. 157.05 Crores
Nepa Limited	75	66	71	Rs. 85.46 crores
Mysore Paper Mills Limited	118	118	122	State Undertaking
Tamil Nadu Newsprint and Papers Limited (both Paper and Newsprint)	105	103	96	State Undertaking

Under utilisation of capacity in Nepa Limited is due to technological obsolescence, capacity imbalances in different plants, lower sales realisation, adverse market condition etc.

In the current year on account of availability of cheaper imported newsprint, stock of indigenous newsprint has accumulated and the production of newsprint have been reduced in all the above mills and production remain suspended at Nepa Limited since 22.8.96.

(e) Profit/Loss for the last three years : (Rs. in crores)

	1993-94	*1994-95*	*1995-96*
Hindustan Newsprint Limited (After tax)	22.47	37.92	51.26
Nepa Limited	(-) 25.66	(-) 11.85	0.45
Mysore Paper Mills Limited (including Paper and Sugar)	6.17	24.11	32.69
Tamil Nadu Newsprint and Papers Limited (including Paper)	54.05	56.31	78.74

Nepa Limited incurred losses in 1993-94 and 1994-95 on account of depressed market scenario and other inherent problems like high cost of production, low capacity utilisation etc.